



COS MEN'S CLUB NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2021

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (LDI)

The FJMC Foundation for Jewish Life

Rabbi Joel S. Geffen Leadership Development Institute

An organization is only as good as its leadership. The Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs (FJMC) values the hard work and dedication that it takes to run our clubs, regions, and international organization. Over 25 years ago, Norm Kurtz and Dr. Burton Fischman, z'l, developed the Leadership Development Institute (LDI). Once each year, LDI brings together regional leaders and a handful of emerging leaders from each of the regions for a long weekend of fun, educational and leadership development sessions, to strengthen the skills of the participants, to share great ideas, and to build friendships.

LDI offers participants the opportunity to develop & improve leadership skills, learn innovative ideas about programming and ritual to be shared with clubs, regions & synagogues, learn to create & innovate when faced with the challenges shared by clubs & regions & build lifelong friendships.

Barry LaBoda, COS Men's Club At Large Board Member, will be attending this year's LDI, which will be held virtually January 30-31, 2021.

Men's Club Shabbat

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, the COS Men's Club Board of Directors voted to postpone the Men's Club Shabbat, planned for March 20, 2021. We are hopeful to schedule the Men's Club Shabbat for late summer, 2021.

UPCOMING MEN'S CLUB EVENTS

**SUNDAY,
JANUARY 31,
2021 AT 8:30 AM
COS PEDALERS
BIKE RIDE**

**SUNDAY,
FEBRUARY 7,
2021 9:00 AM
WORLD WIDE
WRAP (VIRTUAL)**

**SUNDAY,
MARCH 7, 2021
AT 8:30 AM COS
PEDALERS BIKE
RIDE**

**FOLLOW US ON
FACEBOOK
@CONGREGATION
OHEV SHALOM
MEN'S CLUB**

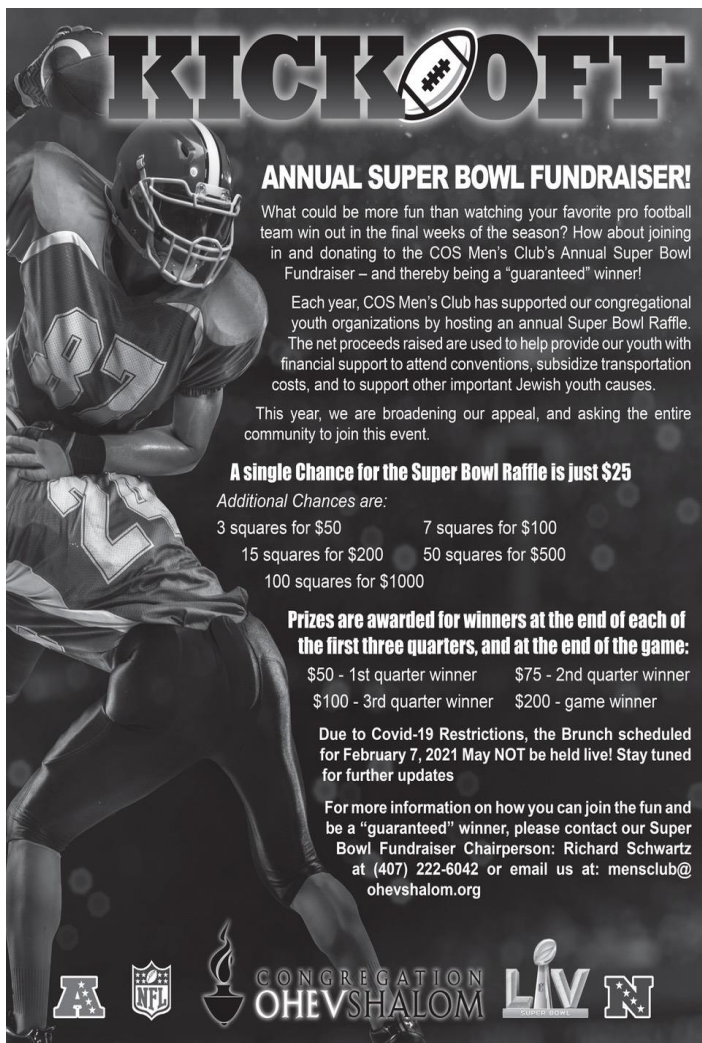
COS Men's Club Super Bowl Fundraiser

The Super Bowl event raises money for the COS Youth Foundation, which provides scholarships and transportation for the children of our congregation to attend a variety of events during the year.

This event is held on Super Bowl Sunday, which this year is February 7, 2021. Traditionally, it is tied to the World Wide Wrap and at its conclusion, Men's Club hosts a brunch offered at no cost to anyone who wishes to attend. This year, due to the pandemic, we will forgo the brunch.

Participants donate money to COS Men's Club for this fundraiser and in return are randomly assigned squares on a grid that ultimately are tied to the score at the end of each quarter of the game. This produces numerous and random winners. At the conclusion of the game, Andy Rosen notifies the lucky winners via email.

(Richard Schwartz contributed to the writing of this article)



KICKOFF

ANNUAL SUPER BOWL FUNDRAISER!

What could be more fun than watching your favorite pro football team win out in the final weeks of the season? How about joining in and donating to the COS Men's Club's Annual Super Bowl Fundraiser – and thereby being a "guaranteed" winner!

Each year, COS Men's Club has supported our congregational youth organizations by hosting an annual Super Bowl Raffle. The net proceeds raised are used to help provide our youth with financial support to attend conventions, subsidize transportation costs, and to support other important Jewish youth causes.

This year, we are broadening our appeal, and asking the entire community to join this event.

A single Chance for the Super Bowl Raffle is just \$25

Additional Chances are:


3 squares for \$50	7 squares for \$100
15 squares for \$200	50 squares for \$500
100 squares for \$1000	

Prizes are awarded for winners at the end of each of the first three quarters, and at the end of the game:

\$50 - 1st quarter winner	\$75 - 2nd quarter winner
\$100 - 3rd quarter winner	\$200 - game winner

Due to Covid-19 Restrictions, the Brunch scheduled for February 7, 2021 May NOT be held live! Stay tuned for further updates

For more information on how you can join the fun and be a "guaranteed" winner, please contact our Super Bowl Fundraiser Chairperson: Richard Schwartz at (407) 222-6042 or email us at: mensclub@ohevshalom.org



COS Men's Club Super Bowl Fundraiser Instruction Sheet

Donor Information:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

- 1 Square (\$25)
- 3 Squares (\$50)
- 7 Squares (\$100)
- 15 Squares (\$200)
- 50 Squares (\$500)
- 100 Squares (\$1,000)

DONATION TOTAL: \$

SOLD BY:

Make your check payable to: "COS Men's Club" and hand-deliver or mail it with this form to:

Super Bowl Fundraiser
c/o Congregation Ohev Shalom Men's Club
613 Concourse Parkway South
Maitland, FL 32751



COS Men's Club and the World Wide Wrap

The annual World Wide Wrap is scheduled for Sunday, February 7, 2021, starting at 9:00 am. Due to the pandemic, the Wrap will be held virtually by accessing the regular Sunday morning minyan link. Early in the month of February of each year, men and women in Conservative/Masorti communities around the world gather together to pray. The mitzvah of wrapping tefillin will be shared, encouraged and taught. For many years Rabbi Kay and Cantor Robuck have illustrated the history of tefillin and the proper (and often unique) ways of putting on tefillin, including the appropriate prayers, at the morning minyan.

COS Men's Club Bridge Group

The COS Men's Club has started an online Bridge group and ALL are welcome. It requires internet access and a laptop/computer to access the website and play – the screens on cell phones are too small. We play this while on a Zoom call so we can kibbitz while we play. The Zoom can be on a cell phone or most of the players can simply leave the Zoom app open in background on the same device we play on. Bridge requires 4 people to play and no real experience is required – we can teach you. If you already know how to play spades, then you know half the rules. We break players into tables of 4 and move each group into separate Zoom rooms to keep the Zoom noise down while playing. We use BridgeBase.com to play. A free account must be created on this website.

Go to BridgeBase.com and register for your free BBO (bridge base online) ID and password. Once you create an account, send Jim Tinkoff (jtinkoff@cfl.rr.com) or Andy Rosen (andy@pineloch.com) an email with your BridgeBase ID, your email address, telephone number and if you able to play. If both you and your spouse are playing, let us know if you want to play as partners. Send the email before 5:00 PM Sunday so that we can arrange tables and select a "Host" for each table. The table listing will be sent out on Monday to include a listing of members and tables. Andy will send out a Zoom request to be used while playing.

Currently, the Bridge Group meets on Tuesdays at 4:00 PM. Emails are sent out the Monday before with the table/partner assignments. If you are interested, let us know and we will contact you with more details.

Jim Tinkoff

Home: 321-422-0729; Mobile 571-275-9724

Men's Club Mensch

Jerry Leibman – COS Men's Club Secretary & VP Programming



Things you may not know about me.

- Both my grandfather (who was a founding member) & my father were presidents of an Orthodox synagogue in Wilkes-Barre, PA, where I was born & raised.
- I was involved in DeMolay, a Masonic Youth organization. My father was a Mason and I became one when we resided in Philadelphia, serving as a Senior Warden.
- In high school, I was a member of Sigma Alpha Rho fraternity. Our Men's Club co-President, Elliott Davis, was also a Sigma Alpha Rho fraternity brother, in Montreal. What a coincidence!!
- I met my wife Ilene at the synagogue we were both attending.
- I worked for the Department of Defense in Philadelphia.
- I attended the JCC sponsored youth leadership program and was taught how to run an effective meeting, stressing Parliamentary Procedure.

Editor's questions:

Your involvement in the Men's Club and the synagogue is a true example of volunteerism. You were involved with your Men's Club in Philadelphia. What programs that were successful in Philadelphia can be brought to COS?

I was President of my Men's Club in Philadelphia for 3 years. The Men's Club had a very strong bond with Sisterhood. The Men's Club held monthly general meetings featuring speakers from government, media and the medical field. A full course dinner was offered at a low cost and was well attended by both Men's Club & Sisterhood members. We also had several large fund raisers. A (secular) New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance, featuring a full course sit down dinner and a Sweetheart Dance in February were examples of successful programs that generated funds that went directly towards the synagogue's mortgage.

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You took on an additional role as leader & coordinator of the COS Seniors. Why was this important to you and do you plan to revive it?

As members of COS, I joined the Men's Club & the COS Seniors and became treasurer of the COS Seniors. Bernie Raff, z'l asked me to succeed him as president, which I accepted. The COS Seniors had monthly Sunday afternoon programs featuring musical entertainment. I had several professional musical contacts in the community and expanded that to include performers throughout Florida. Attendance at these monthly events started to decrease due to the same programs being held at local ALFs. I reached out to Andy Rosen to help start and administer a monthly BINGO. Attendance was good until COVID-19 took over. Virtual BINGO was thought of as an alternative, without success. The COS Seniors program is now on hold, but there are plans for it to return once the COVID-19 crisis is over. COS has an obligation to serve our entire Jewish community & the COS Seniors helps fill this gap.

B'Ri'ut – Substance Abuse Program

The COS Men's Club, in collaboration with fourteen local Jewish organizations, have recognized a need for a program that addresses substance abuse. We all feel an urgency to move quickly to get this program up and running. We have invited all community Rabbis, Cantors, Educators, and Executive Directors.

B'ri'ut is Hebrew for "acceptance". Our objective is to provide a forum for discussion, dissemination of information and provide support to our community to help prevent substance use disorders, provide support groups for those in need, and provide reference information for those looking for support. We hope to encourage the community to more openly discuss substance use disorder issues and thereby reduce the stigma and embarrassment felt by many in our community.

The approach to **B'ri'ut** will be scheduled in multiple programs. The **first** program will take the front line personnel (those who have contact with members of their organization, congregants, etc.) and provide orientation and education at a 1/2 day session, scheduled for Thursday, March 4th, focusing on how to recognize substance use disorders. We will include guest speakers who have dealt with substance use situations. The **second** portion will be a full day, scheduled for Sunday, March 7th and will include training on how to interact and deal with someone needing assistance. Both sessions will be led by certified trainers.

In parallel with this program, we plan to develop a Social Media program for college students and young adults. Most of them are knowledgeable of the issues and have attended many lectures on this subject. They are looking for assistance but not in a group setting. We will also produce a referral guide; indicating where someone would go for assistance, if needed.

Following this initial program & training, the **B'ri'ut** committee will schedule community-wide sessions on substance use disorders, with the objective of reaching all facets of our community and facilitating discussions to eliminate the stigma and sense of embarrassment too often felt in the community when confronted with a family member or friend with substance use problems.

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We will be forming support groups for our Jewish community who are struggling with issues regarding substance use disorders. These groups will be established for various age groups and will be led by community members who will be trained to facilitate. Those that have suffered and/or recovered will make the best group leaders.

We also plan to provide initial funding of Narcan (a medication that counteracts opioid overdoses) to all organizations to have on hand, just in case.

(Bart Neuman contributed to the writing of this article.)

COS Men's Club and Sisterhood event at Leu Gardens



Tu Bishvat is a Jewish holiday occurring on the 15th day of Shevat. It is also called Rosh HaShanah La'llanot, literally "New Year of the Trees". This year it is celebrated on Wednesday, January 27 to Thursday, January 28.

In celebration of Tu Bishvat, COS Sisterhood & Men's Club planned a joint social event at Leu Gardens, on Sunday, January 24. The weather was perfect and the participants enjoyed a guided tour, enjoyed the beautiful foliage and exhibits and sat together for a socially distanced lunch that they brought with them.

Debbie Bellinkoff commented that it was a great program and that she & Irwin enjoyed the company & the gardens. Steve Herman commented the he & Sandy had a wonderful time. Bruce Hoffen thanked Jerry Leibman, who organized the event, for doing the program.



COS Men's Club Leadership 2020-2021

Co-Presidents	Steven Herman & Elliott Davis
Treasurer	Andy Rosen
Secretary	Jerry Leibman
VP Programming	Jerry Leibman
VP Membership	Stuart Leventhal
VP Publicity	Michael Broniewski
VP Social Action	Bruce Hoffen
Immediate Past President	Neal Blaher
At-Large Board Member	Barry LaBoda
At-Large Board Member	Bart Neuman
At-Large Board Member	Richard Schwartz
At-Large Board Member	Michael Soll
At-Large Board Member	Mark Stone
At-Large Board Member	Jim Tinkoff
At-Large Board Member	Mike Wheeler
At-Large Board Member	Alan Zelt

COS Men's Club Newsletter Editor – Elliott Davis – elliottdavis613@gmail.com

For more information about membership, contact Stuart Leventhal sleventhal@interlachencfl.com

Congregation Ohev Shalom

613 Concourse Pkwy S.

Maitland, Florida 32751

(407) 298-4650